

## A Thanksgiving Day message from the Leaders of the Navajo Nation

Ben Shelly, Vice President, Navajo Nation Lawrence T. Morgan, Speaker, 21st Navajo Nation Council Herb Yazzie, Chief Justice, Navajo Nation Judicial Branch

On Thanksgiving Day, we gather with family and friends to give thanks for the many blessings given to us. We ask for guidance and safety for our families, our communities, and our Navajo Nation.

We are thankful for our homeland and all that it provides. We are thankful and hopeful our Navajo Nation will continue to be strong and continue providing for our future. Our Nation is always in the process of growing – even greater today. We build upon hope for our future, we esteem our culture, and honor our language — so we can pass this onto future generations.

As Diné people, let us share our abundance with our neighbors and friends. Let us be compassionate, show kindness, express forgiveness and faith, all of which make our Navajo Nation a place of beauty and hope.

We have faced many challenges and obstacles as Diné, but we overcame these things. Yet we remain among our sacred mountains, and dwell in our land. We have survived challenges, and prospered greatly.

So this Thanksgiving day, let us reflect upon these things and give thanks. Let us reunite as family, as colleagues and as a Nation. Let us also pray for our active-duty servicemen and women as well, because they are off defending freedom around the world and they are sacrificing their time away from their families.

On behalf of the Navajo Nation, we wish you all a happy and joyous Thanksgiving Day. Ahe'hee'.